

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-08 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2151
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USOECD

STATE PASS COMMERCE DEPT FOR JOHN LIEN; USDA PASS
M. WITCHER AND OYLOE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR OECD
SUBJ: OECD STANDARD CODES, AGRICULTURAL TRACTORS

1. AT THE 22-25 MAY 78 MEETING ON OECD STANDARD
CODES FOR THE OFFICIAL TESTING OF AGRICULTURAL TRACTORS,
SAFETY CABS AND FRAMES A PROPOSED CODE ALTERATION
WAS DISCUSSED THAT MIGHT IF ADOPTED CONSTITUTE A
NON-TARIFF TRADE BARRIER BETWEEN THE U.S. AND OTHER
OECD COUNTRIES BY BEING IN CONFLICT WITH OSHA 29 CFR
1928.51, TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR AGRICULTURAL ROPS.

2. SAFETY STRUCTURES ON SMALL TRACTORS (AGR/TS(78)8
AND REV. A) AS ORIGINALLY PRESENTED WOULD ALLOW
ANY TRACTOR WITH MINIMUM WHEEL TREAD OF
1050MM TO BE TESTED TO ROPS REQUIREMENT (STRENGTH)
MUCH LESS THAN OUTLINED IN OSHA 29 CFR 1928.5L. NO
RESTRICTION OTHER THAN LATERAL STABILITY REQUIREMENT
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AND NON-CONTINUOUS ROLL REQUIREMENT (DETERMINED BY
CALCULATION OR TEST) EXISTED. THE TITLE WAS CHANGED
AT THE MEETING TO RESTRICT THE TYPE OF VEHICLE TO BE
SUBJECTED TO THE TEST. NEW WORDING IS QUOTE TEST
PROCEDURE FOR ROPS DEVICE FOR LOW AND NARROW PROFILE
ORCHARD AND VINEYARD TRACTORS UNQUOTE. A WEIGHT
LIMIT OF ABOUT 2000KG ON TRACTORS TO BE TESTED WAS

ALSO ADDED. THE ROPS DEVICE IN QUESTION IS A FORWARD TWO POST ROPS PRESENTLY USED IN FRANCE AND GERMANY BUT NOT IN THE U.S.

3. REQUIREMENTS OF THIS ROPS TEST LIKELY INADEQUATE TO PROVIDE THE DEGREE OF OPERATOR PROTECTION AFFORDED BY OSHA 29 CFR 1928.5L.

4. DOCUMENT AGR/TS(78)8 AND REV. A TO BE REVISED AND CIRCULATED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION AT NEXT MEETING ON 19-22 MAR 1979. NO ACTION ON IMPLEMENTATION WILL BE TAKEN BEFORE NEXT MEETING.

5. SUGGEST (A) CIRCULATING REVISED DOCUMENT WHEN RECEIVED TO FIEI AND SAE AGRICULTURAL TRACTOR COMMITTEE FOR RECORD OF EXPERIENCE AND ADVISE AS TO ADEQUACY OF TEST REQUIREMENTS FOR TYPE OF EQUIPMENT INTENDED AND (B) SINCE TYPE OF TRACTOR IN QUESTION IS USED IN EUROPEAN VINEYARDS AND NOT PRESENTLY USED IN U.S. VINEYARDS, ADDITIONAL STUDY BE CONDUCTED TO DETERMINE THAT SUCH VEHICLES CAN NOT BE MISAPPLIED IN U.S.
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